RELATED APPLICATION

This application is related to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/783,343, entitled "Systems and Methods for Parallel Evaluation of Multiple Queries" by the Applicants named herein, filed February 20, 2004.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The systems and methods described herein generally relate to query processing using a filter engine opcode tree and, more particularly, to systems and methods for updating a filter engine opcode tree.

BACKGROUND

Computing systems - i.e. devices capable of processing electronic data such as computers, telephones, Personal Digital Assistants (PDA), etc. - communicate with other computing systems by exchanging data messages according to a communications protocol that is recognizable by the systems. Such a system utilizes filter engines containing queries that are used to analyze messages that are sent and/or received by the system and to determine if and how the messages will be processed further.

A filter engine may also be called an "inverse query engine." Unlike a database, wherein an input query is tried against a collection of data records, an inverse query engine tries an input against a collection of queries. Each query includes one or more conditions, or rules, that must be satisfied by an input for the query to evaluate to true against the input.

A collection of queries usually takes the form of one or more filter tables that may contain hundreds or thousands of queries, and each query may contain